



NEW HAMPSHIRE LIBERTY ALLIANCE

# GOLD STANDARD

HB 1221	NAY	OTP/A
HB 1427	YEA	ITL
HB 1480	NAY	ITL
HB 1492	YEA	ITL
HB 1621	YEA	ITL
HB 1652	YEA	ITL
HB 1699	NAY	OTP



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HOUSE SESSION - THURSDAY, MARCH 5, 2020

**HB 1221, relative to privacy for an employee's personal financial and credit information.**

**Labor, Industrial and Rehabilitative Services: OTP/A 11-6**

**ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill prohibits employers from using credit history in employment decisions.**

- Employers are already required to get consent of an applicant before acquiring a credit report by federal law. This is not an invasion of privacy if consent is given ([www.consumer.ftc.gov/articles/pdf-0096-fair-credit-reporting-act.pdf](http://www.consumer.ftc.gov/articles/pdf-0096-fair-credit-reporting-act.pdf)).
- Employers only get a modified variation of credit history. They do not see a credit score. An employer pulling this info has no effect on credit score ([www.businessinsider.com/employers-cannot-check-your-credit-score-2014-5](http://www.businessinsider.com/employers-cannot-check-your-credit-score-2014-5)).
- Employers are already required to notify an applicant of failing to hire due to credit history. This provides the applicant the chance to review the credit history for incorrect information.

**HB 1221**

**NAY  
OTP/A**

**HB 1480, relative to the use of system benefits charges.**

**Science, Technology and Energy: ITL 11-8**

**PRO-LIBERTY: This bill removes one of the loopholes passed into law last year that allows the System Benefits Charge to be increased without the approval of the legislature.**

- New Hampshire ratepayers should not be subject to further increases to the systems benefits charge without approval of elected representatives. The charge is a hidden tax on ratepayers.

**HB 1480**

**NAY ITL**

**HB 1427, removing the authorization for OHRV use on certain sections of state highway.**

**Transportation: ITL 16-3**

**ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill repeals the law that allows OHRV use on select roads in northern New Hampshire.**

- This bill will hurt tourism and recreation in NH. Hunters and recreational riders rely on these roads to travel.
- The Jericho ATV Festival is one of the biggest events in northern NH and this bill will discourage tourism to the festival and will also discourage hunting tourism which relies on OHRV use to transport equipment and game.

**HB 1427**

**YEA ITL**

**HB 1621, relative to the use of protective head gear while operating motorcycles and motorized bicycles.**

**Transportation: ITL 16-4**

**ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill mandates the use of helmets when operating a motorcycle or motorized bicycle.**

- This bill is paternalistic in that it forces adults to wear helmets when operating motorcycles and motorized bicycles.
- Free individuals should have the freedom to choose what safety equipment they wear on their body. NH does not require safety clothing for any other passenger vehicles.
- Laconia Motorcycle Week is the oldest continuous motorcycle event in the U.S. and a huge boon to the state economy and the Lakes Region. This law will hurt all local businesses that benefit from that rally, which brings many out-of-state riders into New Hampshire.

**HB 1621**

**YEA ITL**

**HB 1492, establishing a tax on the retail sale of certain electronic devices to fund education.**

**HB 1492**

**Ways and Means: ITL 20-0**

**ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill places a sales tax on the retail sale of electronic devices.**

**YEA ITL**

- This bill establishes a 4.3% sales tax on electronics.
- The implementation of this bill would be a significant administrative burden on small businesses.
- New Hampshire enjoys a constant flow of retail customers from surrounding states; this tax will raise prices and drive these customers away.

**HB 1652, including ski area ticket sales under the meals and rooms tax and dedicating the revenue to the governor's scholarship program for New Hampshire resident students.**

**HB 1652**

**Ways and Means: ITL 20-0**

**ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill adds sales of ski area lift tickets to the meals and rooms tax.**

**YEA ITL**

- Incremental expansion of the meals and rooms tax is an additional step toward a general sales tax.
- Increased taxes would hurt tourism at both the ski areas directly impacted by the new tax and surrounding businesses that benefit from the increased tourism.

**HB 1699, relative to a tax on electronic cigarettes.**

**HB 1699**

**Ways and Means: OTP 12-8**

**ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill dramatically increases taxes on certain electronic cigarette liquid.**

**NAY  
OTP**

- This bill increases the tax rate on open and closed e-cigarette systems. In the case of open systems, the tax rate is increased from 8% to 40%.
- This tax hike will increase the risk of death or disease of e-cigarette users. Consumers may opt to obtain these products online or from black market sources that may be distributing contaminated product.